

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. 25X1
 TOPIC Soviet Troops in Potsdam 25X1

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 11 February to 2 April 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 24 April 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

RETURN TO CIA

SOURCE 25X1

1. On 28 March 1952, the northern section of the Delius Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse Potsdam (W 53/Z 63), quartered 700 to 800 troops who wore red-bordered black epauletts, including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. The quarters were almost vacant at noon on 20 March. Thirty to 35 soldiers were policing them. Two trucks and 5 prime movers stood in front of the garages, and 2 prime movers towing 152-mm howitzers were driving to Bornstedter Feld. About 90 percent of the quarters were lighted at nightfall. There was only a little activity at the quarters on 25 March, 30 soldiers engaged in formation drill with rifles and 20 soldiers engaged in fatigue duty. Five telephone sections of 4 or 5 men each were practicing in the Nedlitz Holz (forest). On 27 March, the unit received instruction in the class rooms at noon. From 12 to 15 officers practiced pistol firing, and about 35 soldiers were engaged in maintenance duty on 5 trucks and 1 trailer in front of the garages. Crews of soldiers with telephone equipment marched to Bornstedter Feld on 28 March, while about 25 men policed the quarters and about 30 other soldiers fell in outside a garage. Sedan 25X1, carrying a general, drove into the installation. Vehicles identified included 25X1

2. On 28 March, the southern section of the Delius Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse quartered 600 to 700 troops who wore red-bordered black epauletts, including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. Four 122-mm field guns with their crews of 7 to 10 men each were seen in the barracks yard on 19 March. Eight 122-mm field guns were parked in front of a garage and 2 officers and 25 men were at rifle drill on 20 March. The quarters were almost empty at noon of the days between 24 and 28 March. Troops were instructed in the quarters on the morning of 28 March. Thirty soldiers policed the quarters, while 10 officers with artillery insignia stood at the guardhouse. Two field kitchens stood in front of the garages. Truck 25X1 drove into the installation with a 76.2-mm field gun that mounted a rifle parallel to the barrel. 25X1

3. After the departure of 16 x 85-mm guns from the Hohenlohe Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse on 13 March, the installation quartered about 400 troops on 28 March. They wore red-bordered black epauletts including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. There were almost no soldiers at the quarters during noontime of the preceding days. On 27 March about 30 men assembled in the barracks yard

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Three buildings of the installation were lighted about 90 percent, 50 percent and 2- percent respectively. Vehicles [redacted]

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4. On 26 March, the Indendorff Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse was occupied by about 350 troops who wore red bordered black epaulets, mostly with artillery insignia. The quarters were vacant at noon on 26 March. Six 37-mm AA guns stood in front of the garages and 6 more AA guns on the barracks yard. Crews of 6 to 8 men practiced with each gun. Twenty soldiers were engaged in physical training. On 25 March, 11 x 37-mm AA guns and about 60 men were seen in front of the garages and, on 27 March, 6 x 37-mm AA guns and about 50 men, and 1 other AA guns of the same caliber and about 30 men were in the barracks yard. Ten 37-mm AA guns, 1 truck and 2 trailers stood in front of the garages on 28 March. Truck [redacted] stopped in front of the gate. (2)

5. On 2 April, the Golm Kaserne in Potsdam-Golm quartered about 200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and 20 air force soldiers, after about 600 troops with red-bordered black epaulets had left the installation on 30 March. Two gunbarrel trailers and 2 x 152-mm howitzers were parked in front of the armory on 29 March. Seven trucks, [redacted], were parked there on 1 April and a 152-mm howitzer, 1 gunbarrel trailer and 1 caterpillar tractor on 2 April. Truck [redacted] and trailer [redacted] drove into the installation. (3) Documents found at the barracks installation in Golm during the first half of March 1952 included:

- a. Three practice targets whose reverse sides had been used for notes in instruction. A schedule for the period from 3 to 10 May 1951 for the sergeants of the reconnaissance group, the signal group, the radio group and for the chiefs of sections of a third battery; dated 28 April 1951; and approved by Gds Lieutenant Colonel Abainov (fnu), commanding officer of a 1st Arty Bn. An incomplete schedule of 31 May 1951 for instruction with a 122-mm gun, mentioning as instructors Lieutenant Ananyev (fnu) and Lieutenant Valov (fnu), probably of the third battery. A schedule for the period from 15 to 19 January 1951, for instruction of the sergeants of the third battery, mentioning as instructors Lieutenant Valov (fnu), Lieutenant Ananyev (fnu), and Gds Captain Antonenkov (fnu). (4)

6. [redacted] March 1952, source determined that the spur track from the Wildpark railroad station to the barracks installation, Wildpark-West, east of the Grosse Entenfaenger See (lake) was dismantled to a point north of the railroad station Wildpark-Kuhfort road.

7. On 7 March, a motorized column moved along Platz-der-Nationen, formerly Brandenburger Platz, from the direction of Lenin Allee, formerly Zeppelinstrasse, and proceeded toward Nedlitz. It consisted of trucks carrying about 200 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, billeting equipment and field equipment. 3 busses, 1 tank truck and 1 field kitchen. [redacted]

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On 21 March, a column of 10 closed radio trucks with cable reels on the rearwall, 2 jeeps, 2 armored scout cars, 1 field kitchen and about 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal and motor transport insignia stopped on Platz-der-Einheit, formerly Wilhelm Platz. [redacted]

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A captain who headed the column asked for the road to Neubrandenburg via Oranienburg [redacted] 25X1

8. Between 25 and 27 March, the Kavallerie Schule at Kramnitz quartered a unit of soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank and artillery insignia, and black-bordered black epaulets. About 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying practice targets marched out of the installation [redacted]

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on 25 March. Troops were engaged in formation and rifle drill in the barracks yard. About 60 soldiers alternately practiced firing with T-34/85 tanks at fixed targets placed up to 20 meters away at the tank training site north of the installation. Seven T-34/85 tanks, stood in front of the tank sheds on the southwest front of the Kavallerie Schule. On 26 March, about 30 soldiers practiced aiming with rifles on the pistol range in the northeastern section of the billeting area. About 100 soldiers were at formation drill on the target range north of the installation. About 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying carbines, submachine guns, 2 antitank rifles and 1 heavy machine gun marched out of the eastern barracks gate to the Doerberitz troop training grounds. About 30 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets put up practice targets along the border of the training site. Nine T-34/85 tanks, stood in front of the tank sheds on the southwestern side. About 30 soldiers were engaged in physical training beside the tanks. About 500 troops received combat training at group and platoon level, and about 100 troops received training in advanced combat firing involving tanks on the drill grounds north of the barracks installation. About 300 soldiers were engaged in formation drill and physical exercise in the eastern section of the billeting area on 27 March. A total of 200 troops practiced rifle firing on the target ranges north of the installation. Eleven T-34/85 tanks, stood in front of the tank sheds in the southwestern section of the billeting area. Two groups, each of 36 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying entrenching tools, marched to the Doerberitz troop training grounds.

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(9)

9. On 24 March, no training activity and no heavy weapons were noticed in the southern section of the Delius Kaserne. Vehicles entered the installation. There was no activity in the northern section of the Delius Kaserne. About 300 troops organized into platoons of 30 men each practiced rifle firing on Bornstedter Feld opposite the Delius Kaserne. (1)

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10. On 24 March, the Hohenlohe Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse was entered by a convoy of 12 trucks, each towing a 37-mm AA gun and carrying 10 to 12 men. The convoy came from the direction of Nedlitz. A short time later, the convoy was observed in the yard of the Ludendorff Kaserne, with the crews uncoupling the guns. Ten more 37-mm AA guns stood in the barracks yard. Trucks drove into the Hohenlohe Kaserne and trucks into the Ludendorff Kaserne. (2)

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11. At the end of February, 4 x 85-mm AA guns and 1 light AA machine gun were emplaced in the Bergstuecken settlement in Potsdam-Babelsberg. The settlement was bordered on the south by the Babelsberg-Grossbeeren road, on the east by a patch of woods and a squatters colony, on the north by a woods called Am Goholz, and on the west by a large dwelling on Patrizierweg. A roll call at the end of February at the emplacement involved 4 officers and 54 men. Between 10 and 10:45 a.m. on the days prior to 24 March, a practice alert of about 10 minutes was held with subsequent gun drill. A 7-man crew was noticed with each gun, an 8-man crew with the ballistic director, a 4-man crew with the battery commander's telescope and a 4-man crew with the AA machine gun. Truck at the emplacement from 20 to 24 March.

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12. After the end of February, an AA gun emplacement was observed in the Steinstuecken settlement along the Drevitz-Kohlhasenbrueck railroad line. The emplacement consisted of five 37-mm AA guns, and a ballistic director with a steel mast of 4 to 5 meters high nearby and was bordered on the west by Note-Kreuzstrasse, on the south by Steinstrasse and on the north by Stuhnsdorferstrasse. The crews were quartered in three bunkers of 3 x 4 meters. Another AA gun emplacement with five 37-mm AA guns and a range finder with a base of about 1.20 meters, but no ballistic

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Director, was on Franz-Ehringstrasse on the northern section of the Babelsberg sporting field and on open terrain north of the athletic field. Gun drill and practice alerts were continuously conducted at the two emplacements on the days prior to 24 March. Five-man crews were observed with each gun and a three-man crew with the battery commander's telescope at the emplacement on the Babelsberg athletic field.

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13. Between 12 and 19 March, source determined that vehicles leaving the restricted Babelsberg area went via Stahnsdorferstrasse, Ehrensteinweg, Steinstrasse, August-Bebelstrasse and Ernst Thaelmannstrasse. Bus [] left the restricted area at about 4:30 p.m. via the streets concerned, proceeded toward the Polizei Kaserne on the east side of Jaeger Allee, where five officers left the bus. The bus drove as far as the Reiterweg, where it turned and stopped on Am Schragen at the corner of Pappel Allee to pick up 35 to 40 officers, some BW and women who returned to the restricted Babelsberg area. The bus arrived there at about 5:15 p.m.

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14. On 19 March, source determined that one of the buildings of the Leibniz-Kaserne on the east side of Stalin Allee was lighted about 100 percent, a second building about 80 percent, a third building about 50 percent, with a fourth and fifth building less than 50 percent.

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15. Source determined on 14 March that [] was stationed in Teltow and Unit [] in Potsdam. (R)

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25X1 [] Comments.

- (1) The Delius Kaserne is still carried as quartering the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig in its northern section and the unidentified gun artillery brigade, possibly the 138th, in its southern section. The information to some extent confirms previous reports stating that only components of the brigades are in the Delius Kaserne as elements of the brigades have been rotated for short-term firing practices to Altengrabow since the end of February 1952. []
- (2) The departure of units of the 2d Gds AAA Div on 13 March, presumably to Eustrow, was previously reported by the same and other sources. [] The present report confirms the Hohenlohe Kaserne to be occupied by medium AAA units, and the Ludendorff Kaserne by light AAA units, of the 2d Gds AAA Div. []
- (3) The decrease in the number of troops in the barracks installation in Gdm which is carried as quartering elements of the unidentified gun artillery brigade, possibly the 138th, is explained by the fact that, according to substantiated reports by other sources, elements of the brigade were shipped to Altengrabow on 30 March 1952. []
- (4) The convoy which belongs to the unidentified artillery division in Potsdam had probably come on a train which was loaded in Altengrabow and dispatched to Wildpark on 7 March. []
- (5) The column belongs to headquarters signal troops of the Second Gds Army and is believed to have returned to its permanent quarters when the command post exercise in the Hamburg area terminated about 20 March 1952. []
- (6) Confirms the occupation of the Kavallerie Schule at Kraupnitz by components of the 10th Gds Tank Div. []
- (7) The AAA emplacements probably constitute the AAA protection of the restricted Babelsberg area. [] the AAA troops belong to the 2d Gds AAA Div. []
- (8) [] Soviet offices in Potsdam.

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